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GEN WALDNER NAMED NEW JOINT STAFF CHIEF

PY081800 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Air Force Chief-of-Staff Brigadier Teodoro Waldner was last night named head of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, the first ever Air Force officer to become commander of operations of the three services. And Brigadier Ernesto Crespo, a nationalist officer who has a strong ascendancy over his subordinates, was appointed to succeed Waldner as Air Force chief-of-staff.

Waldner will be put into office by President Raul Alfonsin -- the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces -- at a ceremony to be held this afternoon in the Libertador Building, the headquarters of the Army high command. Crespo, who was in charge of coordinating the Air Force's combat action during the 1982 Malvinas war, will take over this morning at a ceremony at the Palomar Air Base over which Defence Minister Raul Borras will preside.

Waldner's appointment appeared to put an end to the crisis which broke out over the weekend when his predecessor, General Julio Fernandez Torres. was relieved of his duties and put on the retirement list. Army Chief-of-Staff Ricardo Pianta was originally offered the post but he turned it down and went into retirement. General Hector Rios Erenu was appointed to succeed him at the head of the Army.

It was not immediately known how the Army -- which traditionally has always had the supremacy in controlling the Armed Forces -- will react to Waldner's appointment. His appointment, however, will not force any other military officer into retirement as he is the highest ranking officer in all three services still on active duty.

Waldner's name was consistently mentioned, together with Army General Mario Aguado Benitez, as a possible successor to Fernandez Torres. But Waldner himself played down the rumors of his possible appointment and it was believed Alfonsin personally took a hand in convincing him to accept and end the crisis.

His appointment carries with it his promotion to brigadier general -- the equivalent to lieutenant general in the Army -- to become the only officer on active duty to carry the insignia of the highest military rank. Borras, on submitting the promotion for approval by the Senate, will also ask the Upper House to approve Crespo's promotion to the rank of brigadier major and Rios Erenu's promotion to the rank of major general. Navy Chief-of-Staff Ramon Arosa was promoted to the rank of vice-admiral last year.

Besides Fernandez Torres and Pianta, seven Army officers went into retirement as the result of the military crisis as well as four rear-admirals and two Air Force brigadiers.

Installed in Office

PY090238 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0014 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- As commander in chief of the Armed Forces, President Raul Alfonsin today installed the new chief of the Joint Staff, Brigadier General Teodoro Waldner, who in his inaugural speech stressed the institutionalization of the nation as the only means for building the great future that the nation deserves.

The brief and simple ceremony was held at the parade grounds of the Libertador building, Army headquarters. Upon his arrival, Alfonsin was welcomed with the honors appropriate to his rank, that is, a joint formation of Armed Forces troops and a band.

The ceremony was attended by Defense Minister Raul Borras, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, Chairman of the Senate Defense Committee Antonio Berhongarary, Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies Defense Committee Balbino Zubiri, lawmakers, high-ranking officials of the three Armed Forces, and assorted government officials.

Delivers Speech

PY092102 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0101 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Major General Teodoro Guillermo Waldner, who was today sworn in as chief of the joint staff, has said that in the difficult times the Republic is experiencing, the willingness, for integration will allow us to strengthen our forces, thus contributing to the institutionalization of the nation, which is the only way to achieve the destiny of greatness the nation deserves. The text of Waldner's speech follows:

"Upon assuming the position of chief of the joint staff by decision of the national executive branch, I would like to express my thanks for the gesture of the Army chief of the staff by allowing the use of the Army parade ground. This gesture alone represents the willingness for integration without which we will not be able to fulfill the mission of the Armed Forces, which is to provide for the common defense. In the difficult times the Republic is experiencing, the willingness for integration will allow us to strengthen our forces, thus contributing to the institutionalization of the nation, which is the only way to achieve the destiny of greatness the nation deserves.

"This goal, for which government leaders and the people must work, will be achieved through continuous and substantial action rather than brilliant but unsustained spurts of activity. These substantial actions will always be present in our daily tasks. Joint military action should be interpreted in its strictest sense. We must display unity in the diverse actions that every force follows in carrying out its specific duties.

"This does not mean losing the identify that characterizes each particular force, because the unity achieved will nourish the healthy and legitimate pride that makes up the necessary esprit de corps. It is necessary to overcome the professional jealousy that prevents reconciling our specific actions and strengthening them.

"Our main goal will be to adjust the defense needs to the real possibilities of conflict. This adjustment cannot be made overnight. It will first be necessary to have legal rules and doctrines supporting it. It will also be necessary to face the common problems affecting us. We are aware that the assigned resources do not fully satisfy the needs of the forces. This should be an incentive for us to seek imaginative solutions to the many problems created by the current international economic crisis, which has been excessively hard on Argentina. In this regard we will advocate, along with the staffs of the respective forces, the carrying out of the necessary military reorganization to adopt ourselves to the needs of a modern state commensurate with the real possibilities.

"Messrs officers of the joint staff, military life is characterized by talking clearly and straightforwardly and by looking each other straight in the eye. In reviewing our common problems, I require from you the spontaneous expression of your various points of view. For my part, I can assure you an atmosphere of rational discussion. I do not want indulgent subordinates. We must have the moral courage to remain faithful to the principles that best serve the interests of the country, the objectives of national defense [words indistinct] military instrument but there must be a conviction that such conditions arise from real or proven facts and not from a stubborn attitude or a preconceived concept.

"I expect the following from my staff:
"1. Confidence in achieving the objective.
"2. Creativity, intellectual honesty, and professional judgment.
"3. A willingness, not without sacrifice, to contribute to the constitutional [word indistinct].

"Only in this way will our work be worthy and our homage to those who have died for the fatherland make sense. In our daily work we must not overlook the price of their sacrifice," Waldner concluded.

NEW AIR FORCE CHIEF TALKS WITH REPORTERS

PY090024 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1808 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Brigadier General Ernesto Crespo, the new Air Force chief of staff, today stated that the Armed Forces must work closely together because they are one of the main pillars of the nation. Gen Crespo made these remarks during a press conference he granted to journalists after taking the oath as Air Force chief of staff at a ceremony that was presided over by Defense Minister Raul Borras at the 1st Air Brigade, headquartered in El Palomar.

The new Air Force chief of staff stated that the budget which the nation has allocated to his branch will permit personnel to maintain adequate operations capabilities so as to help protect the nation's sovereignty together with the Army and the Navy.

Asked his opinion of the actions undertaken by the Armed Forces pursuant to the report which the Air Force had prepared after the South Atlantic conflict, while Crespo was commander of the Southern Air Force (FAS), Crespo drew the journalists' attention to the fact that this report only dealt with Air Force shortcomings. He went on to emphasize the joint actions of the Armed Forces during the Malvinas war and the coordinated operations that were conducted during the conflict. He indicated that the Armed Forces must work closely together because they are one of the main pillars of the nation.

Regarding the appointment of Major General Teodoro Waldner as chief of the joint staff, Crespo said that it is a matter of pride and honor for the Air Force and an obligation to the political authorities. He stated that now we and the other two branches of the Armed Forces must support them so that they can carry out their mission effectively.

He announced that on Monday he will begin the appropriate evaluation to appoint the Air Force high command and will assess the high cost of instruction of Air Force personnel. He explained that the country has problems, as we all know, but guaranteed that the Air Force will continue flying and maintaining its operational capabilities.

DEFENSE MINISTRY ANNOUNCES ARMY APPOINTMENTS

PY090205 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0042 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- The Argentine Defense Ministry today announced the postings of high-ranking Army officers. Brigadier General Mario Jaime Sanchez has been appointed deputy Army chief of staff. Here are the other postings announced today.

Commander of the II Corps: Brigadier General Jorge Eduardo Orleri; commander of the III Corps: Brigadier General Ignacio Anibal Verdura; commander of the IV Corps: Brigadier General Enrique Benjamin Bonifacino; commander of the V Corps: Brigadier General Jose Segundo Dante Caridi; deputy commander of the V Corps: Brigadier General Jose Pedro Malagama;

Army chief inspector: Brigadier General Angel Mario Medone; Army deputy chief inspector: Brigadier General Ernesto Arturo Alais; Chief of the Logistics Command: Brigadier General Naldo Miguel Dasso; Chief of the 1st Department, personnel: Colonel Miguel Wenceslao Abbate; chief of the 2d Department, intelligence: Brigadier General Enrique Braulio Olea; chief of the 3d Department, operations: Brigadier General Leopoldo Hector Flores; chief of the 4th Department, logistics and finance: Brigadier General Julian Perez Dorrego;

Secretary general of the Army General Staff: Colonel Roberto Atilio Boscalandro; commander of the 2d Armored Calvalry Brigade: Colonel Francisco Obdulio Dalessandri; commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade: Colonel Bernandino Oscar Pucheta; commander of the 4 Infantry Brigade: Colonel Justo Jacobo Rojas Alcorta; commander of the 8th Mountain Infantry Brigade: Colonel Juan Carlos Jauregui; and commander of the 9th Infantry Brigade: Colonel Elvio Alberto Santarrosa.

The information that the Defense Ministry supplied tonight concerning the new military postings does not mention the former commander of the II Corps, Brigadier General Victor Pino, who has been replaced by Brigadier General Jorge Eduardo Gorleri, from which one can conclude that Gen Pino has retired.

II Corps Commander To Retire

PY082216 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1957 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- General Victor Pino, the current commander of the II Corps, will retire, reliable sources reported this afternoon. Pino is an infantry general and a paratrooper. He belongs to the group of officers that was promoted to the rank of general in 1981 together with General Rios Erenu. During the reshuffling of the Armed Forces leadership, there was some talk that he would be appointed deputy chief of staff of the Army, the third most important Army post. The sources indicated that the desire of the government to retire the current II Corps commander prevailed over that of the Army chief of staff, who wanted Pino appointed as his deputy.

HONDURAN MINISTER URGES INVOLVEMENT IN AREA PEACE

PY091320 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica today pointed out the need for Argentina's "more direct participation" in the pacification process of Central America and the Caribbean where he believes "peace is around the corner." Paz Barnica said that since the Malvinas war the OAS Charter and the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR), in addition to other inter-American instruments, need "substantial changes" to adapt them to Latin American interests.

The Honduran foreign minister supports the "cancellation" of the Latin American foreign debt. He also revealed that he met with Oraldo Britos, first vice president of the Justicialist National Council elected in Rio Hondo, and with Peronist Deputy Ruben Cardoso to didscuss the Central American crisis.

In a press conference given today in the Plaza Hotel, Paz Barnica reiterated his country's support for Argentine rights over the Malvinas and revealed that former Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, during a special OAS meeting in Washington in 1982, asked a group of Latin American countries "not to be so drastic" in the declaration condemning the attitude of the U.S. in the South Atlantic.

He recalled that in 1979 he participated in the inspection carried out by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission in Argentina, saying that "this awful event, which produced about 20,000 missing persons, according to our investigation, will not happen again because democracy now prevails in this country."

He reaffirmed the Honduran support for the peace efforts of the Contadora Group warning that "a military solution in the region will be rejected by all the people of the Americas." Paz Barnica said that the Central American problem will be the main issue during the meetings that President Alfonsin is going to hold with his U.S. and Mexican counterparts Ronald Reagan and Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, respectively. He emphasized that his country's role in the Central Amrican crisis "is one of moderation and equilibrium." Honduras currently has a constitutional government after 19 years of military regimes since the overthrow of former President Jacobo Arbenz.

The Honduran foreign minister met yesterday with Caputo and today with Alfonsin. He said that it would be useful "to introduce substantial changes" in the OAS Charter, in TIAR, and in other inter-American instruments whose ineffectiveness was revealed during the Malvinas war.

In conclusion, Paz Barnica said that if the inter-American system is adjusted to the interests of Latin America "the political efficiency of the people of the region will be strengthened" before a superpower like the United States.

Signs Joint Declaration

PY091440 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0015 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine and Honduran Governments today signed a joint declaration reiterating the validity of the principle of "nonintervention," expressing their "deep concern" for "the serious situation" affecting Central America, and condemning "the military fortification of the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom."

In a 4-page document signed by Foreign Ministers Dante Caputo and Edgardo Paz Barnica of the Argentine and Honduran Governments, they agreed that "the inter-American system must be reinvigorated." They also pointed out that "it is important that the governments of the main developed countries, the international financial community, and the multilateral financial organizations recognize the urgent need to insure the debtor countries, through an adequate dialogue, better payment conditions" of their foreign debts.

In the declaration released at the conclusion of Paz Barnica's 3-day official visit to Argentina, the two governments also agreed that "the New Delhi declaration of 28 January 1985 is the appropriate means to mobilize men and governments to search for effective measures to put an end to the arms race which is jeopardizing world stability."

Caputo expressed thanks for the invitation by Paz Barnica to visit Honduras this year, "which will also provide as opportunity to visit the other Central American countries."

The Argentine and Honduran Governments "reiterated their support for the principles and purpose of the UN Charter, especially the legal equality of states, respect for human rights, and individual liberties." They also confirmed their support for the principles of "self-determination of peoples; political pluralism; the defense of national sovereignty and territorial integrity; the nonuse of force or threat to use force in international relations; and the peaceful solution of controversies."

In the joint declaration the Argentina and Honduran Governments reaffirmed their support for the Contadora Group peace efforts and agreed that "the participation of all countries involved is necessary to reach an effective and lasting solution to the current crisis."

The Honduran foreign minister "deplored the persistent colonial situation in the American continent and reiterated his country's support for the sovereign rights of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas, South Georgias, and Sandwich Islands."

The Honduran foreign minister also "recognized the Argentine efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the sovereignty issue with the United Kingdom" in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Regarding the conflict in the South Atlantic the joint declaration specifically points out that "the two foreign ministers condemn the military fortification of the Malvinas Islands being carried out by the United Kingdom, stating that it represents a threat to peace and security."

In conclusion the document says that "within the framework of the cordial relations between the Republics of Argentina and Honduras the meetings served to show the willingness to strengthen mutual relations and cooperation in the many areas of common interests."

ITALY'S SANDRO PERTINI ARRIVES IN BUENOS AIRES

PY091906 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1833 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- Italian President Sandro Pertini arrived at 1528 at the Jorge Newbery Metropolitan Airport, where he was welcomed by President Raul Alfonsin. Pertini arrived from Ezeiza International Airport.

DEPUTY COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH U.S. OFFICIAL

PY091800 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1947 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (TELAM) -- Deputy Luis Sobrino Aranda (Justicialist Party - Santa Fe Province) has stated that U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence Nestor Sanchez "is clearly aware of the dangers of the Soviet communist infiltration in our continent" and has noted that during a luncheon with him, along with a group of politicians, Sanchez struck him as a very rational and intelligent person.

Sobrino Aranda said that Sanchez invited a group of politicians to a luncheon at the U.S. Embassy, along with Deputy Alfredo Connolly (Justicialist Party - Buenos Aires Province), Senator Juan Trilla (Radical Civic Union - Buenos Aires City), and Antonio Berhongaray (Radical Civic Union - La Pampa Province), among others. The Justicialist lawmaker, who is the vice president of the National Defense Commission at the Chamber of Deputies, stated: I told him that we are convinced that he is absolutely right concerning the dangers of communist infiltration.

'WITHDRAWAL' OF SAUDI AMBASSADOR FORESEEN

PY081920 Buenos Aires NOTICIES ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0015 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (NA) -- The Kingdom of Suadi Arabia has reportedly informed the Argentine Foreign Ministry of its willingness to "arrange the situation" that has arisen from the alleged activities, which are incompatible with his functions, of Saudi Arabian Ambassador Fu'ad Ahmad al-Nazir, something which in diplomatic parlance is interpreted as the withdrawal of that official from Buenos Aires soon. This statement was made by official sources tonight, stating that the Arabian kingdom has expressed to "common friends" of the Saudi and Argentine Governments who, upon a request by the latter, have recently held negotiations in Riyadh to avoid a diplomatic conflict by possibly withdrawing the ambassador. The sources also stated that the denunciation of the diplomat by the president of the Radical Civic Union bloc at the Chamber of Deputies, Cesar Jaroslavsky, who stated that a representative of a Middle East country was conducting negotiations to prevent the approval of the peace treaty with Chile in the Argentine Senate, was actually prompted by San Martin Palace [Argentine Foreign Ministry]. In that regard, it was mentioned that "a lawmaker could never have made such a denunciation without the approval of the Foreign Ministry," thus negating a number of specious reports which alluded to Jaroslavsky's Jewish origin as his reason for giving the Arab-Israeli conflict an Argentine expression.

It was stated that the withdrawal of the ambassador by the Saudi Government "could take some time, as is common in the removal of diplomats," although this statement is thought to be aimed at preventing the Argentine Foreign Ministry from declaring the diplomat "persona non grata" and expelling him from the country. The sources stated that it is "virtually impossible to prove" that the alleged discussions al-Nazir held with the Peronist senators seeking to convince them to scrap the treaty had taken place but that "the suspicion is there," and asserted that the diplomat "has been the protagonist of diatribes against the Argentine Government in every meeting that he attended and that, to this end, he is thought to be involved with a group of journalists" who are publishing a metropolitan magazine.

Saudi Embassy Denies Report

PY091945 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0103 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Mar (NA) -- The Saudi Embassy has "categorically" denied and termed "malicious" reports on the possible withdrawal of Saudi chief of mission Fu'ad Ahmad al-Nazir. In a communique issued tonight, the Saudi Embassy stated that both the reports and the accusations against the ambassador, who has been charged with trying to hamper Senate approval of the peace and friendship treaty with Chile, constitute part of "an orchestrated campaign to disrupt and undermine" relations between the two countries. The communique issued by the embassy states the following:

"In the wake of news reports issued today that the Saudi Arabian Government has reportedly conveyed its inclination to withdraw Ambassador Fu'ad Ahmad al-Nazir because of the accusations leveled against him over the past few days, the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia categorically denies these malicious reports and states that these journalists' rumors and accusations are completely groundless. This leads us to assume that they are part of an orchestrated campaign to disrupt and undermine the good relations existing between the Argentine Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in particular and the relations with the Arab world in general. In addition, this embassy reiterates on this occasion the statement the members of the Arab diplomatic missions made to the Foreign Minister Dante Caputo on 26 February, stating their respect for Argentine sovereignty and for the principle of nonintervention in the domestic matters of other countries as well as their rejection of this campaign and the efforts to involve them in the domestic affairs of the Argentine Republic."

COB GENERAL STRIKE CONTINUES TO SPREAD

La Paz Factory Workers

PY081415 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpts] In solidarity with mineworkers, who have [word indistinct] a similar forceful measure demanding social justice, the La Paz factory workers decided to begin an indefinite general strike which started at midnight last night. This decision was made by the Trade Union Federation of La Paz Factory Workers during a special meeting held on 7 March.

La Paz factory workers leader Eduardo Siles has stated that the factory workers will stage rallies and marches in La Paz beginning today. The rallies will be held beginning at 0300 in four places: the (Sahib) factory, (Fronton Tolineo), the Bolivian National Brewery, and Murillo Square in Miraflores District.

International Flights Canceled

PY081900 Paris AFP in Spanisn 1833 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 8 Mar (AFP) -- The general strike which the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) ordered last night has began to affect the nation's airports. For this reason international flights to and from Bolivia have been canceled, according to information released today in the capital. This news was confirmed by COB leaders who explained that the employees of the Auxiliary Air Navigation Services Administration have joined the strike.

COB Orders Emergency Services

PY082112 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] The Executive Committee of the COB has announced the emergency services that must continue as long as the COB's indefinite general strike order remains in effect. Jose Justiciano, a principal COB leader, said the following:

[Begin recording] The COB Executive Board has just held a meeting with all the national labor organizations at which it was decided which emergency services should be kept working during the indefinite strike the COB ordered yesterday.

The radios will operate normally until 24 hours after the peasants start blockading the roads. The newspapers will operate normally until further notice, that is, it depends on the conclusions reached at this afternoon's press federation meeting. Television Channel 7 workers are on an indefinite general strike. Therefore, if the government or anyone else tries to operate this equipment, the COB will cut the broadcast with its own means. Moreover, any missing equipment will be the sole responsibility of anyone who tries to operate this television channel. [end recording]

Service institutions must work in keeping with the COB instructions based on the following schedule:

[Begin recording] Regarding oil workers, Bolivian Government Oil Deposits operations workers have promised to continue working in order to deliver gas and kerosene to housewives. Fuel supplies will be delivered only to emergency services that have been authorized by the COB organizing committee. In a short while we shall establish the procedure to be followed by the Bolivian Lloyd Airline Company.

Regarding health services, all emergency services in all La Paz health centers and hospitals will operate normally.

We want to make it clear that in keeping with COB resolutions, the vaccination campaign that was planned by the Health Ministry should proceed normally on Sunday throughout the nation. All those involved in this vaccination campaign must report to work.

Regarding municipal employees, there will be an emergency trash collection service at the municipal slaughterhouse and at the general cemetery. In addition, there will be emergency squads appointed in case of [word indistinct] in La Paz and throughout the nation.

Regarding communications, the [name indistinct] service has established an emergency service from 1000 to 1400 and from 1900 to 2100.

Since Tarija is in a state of emergency because of the natural disasters, it has been established that Lloyd flights and the military air transport system should continue to operate normally to transport medicine and foodstuffs, and that the emergency squads of the national road service and all operations to render support to the disaster area will continue.

Emergency water, electricity, and telephone services will operate normally. MESA [expansion unknown] services will operate under an emergency system in transporting passengers from El Alto to the city and from the city to El Alto.

Press graphic workers will work in shifts until further notice.

The bank system throughout the nation will operate only on Tuesday, 12 March from 0800 to 2000 for the payment of salaries. The private banking sector on Tuesday will also operate the cashboxes and current account departments.

It has been established that peasants will block roads as of 0000 Monday.

COB Threatens Further Demonstrations

PY090234 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] The collusion, "Garretazo", between Senator Garret Ayllon and Lechin Oquendo, a term coined by Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena, is absolutely groundless, according to a high-ranking leader of the COB.

In remarks to the press, Mario Rueda Pena has only (?prevented) an explanation by Senator Garret Ayllon about certain rumors emerging from the strike called by the COB alleging an alliance between Senator Garret Ayllon and Juan Lechin Oquendo.

Asked about Rueda Pena's remarks, Jose Justiniano, a high-ranking COB leader, made the following statement:

[Begin recording] I have to deny this comment because it is absolutely groundless. Any situation that may emerge from a dialogue seeking to solve this problem must come from government (?decisions). The government must face and guarantee any measure seeking to solve this indefinite general strike declared by the Bolivian workers. [end recording]

The COB leader later added that during the indefinite strike, demonstrations will continue throughout the nation and that these mobilizations will be intensified during the next few days.

[Begin recording] This indefinite general strike throughout the country will be accompanied by demonstrations and general mobilizations of miners and factory workers, which will be intensified within the next few days. These are the guidelines distributed this morning to all national federations and confederations.

Approximately 2,500 mineworkers from Potosi and from other departments will arrive in La Paz on Sunday, 10 March. [end recording]

The union leader finally reaffirmed the workers' disposition to seek common agreements with the government whenever and as long as the (?government leaders) decide to open the doors to the workers and to fulfill their commitments.

La Paz 'Paralyzed'

PY091430 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] The activities of public transport have been noticeably reduced because the petroleum workers have reported that fuel will not be sold in support of the general, indefinite strike declared by the COB. Because of this circumstance, the movement of buses and mini-buses has been at a minimum since yesterday afternoon, causing problems for those citizens who wish to go from one part of the city to another.

Last night, a few trucks belonging to the Armed Forces were seen providing public transport service.

It appeared on La Paz streets to be a holiday as the impact of the general strike, declared by the COB in demand of an adjustable minimum wage, was felt. Radio Panamericana surveyed downtown La Paz streets and found that there was an almost total paralysis of activities, because most private institutions, shops, and state organizations had closed their doors. In most ministries the ministers did not work, according to official sources, because they spent their time in meetings with the president or working on administrative matters.

In sum, La Paz looked unusual yesterday on the first day of the indefinite general strike declared by the COB.

Armed Forces Loyalty Promised

PY081430 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] National Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo told reporters yesterday that the Armed Forces will act when it is needed. He emphatically denied the alleged participation of the military in actions aimed at provoking political unrest. He added that all the military units agree on defending the democratic process. He then referred to a meeting that Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Simon Tordoya held with the Cochabamba garrison. On that occasion the garrisons agreed to safeguarding the democratic process, Cardenas said.

The actions carried out by the top leaders of the COB are provoking, Gen Cardenas said, since their objective is to alter the democratic process and allow the rightist [as heard] faction to gain power. Gen Cardenas added that the Armed Forces will ultimately take action only when their presence is needed in face of the actions of ultraleftist groups that aim to alter the democratic framework. Finally, the minister requested the cooperation of all Bolivians aware of the situation's seriousness in overcoming this current crisis.

Armed Forces Mobilized

PY081634 Paris AFP in Spanish 1610 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Armed Forces Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya has ordered all military personnel to stay in their barracks throughout the country in the face of possible disorder stemming from an indefinite general strike called last night by the COB, it was reported today in La Paz. In a statement to the press, Sejas Tordoya has stated that the Armed Forces are mobilized to safeguard private property and to provide security to the people. Sejas Tordoya indicated that the Army could intervene if the COB, in conjunction with peasant sectors, carries out its threat of blocking roads nationwide beginning on Monday, 11 March.

The situation in this capital is very tense due to the presence of nearly 10,000 miners who have been here since 4 March, when they attended a COB-sponsored rally.

Possibility of State of Siege

PY081730 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1645 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 8 Mar (EFE) -- On the first day of the indefinite general strike called by the COB, Bolivian Armed Forces Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya today ordered that all troops report to their barracks "in the face of the difficult situation the country is experiencing." Sejas Tordoya said that harsh actions will be taken if acts of terrorism take place.

President Siles Zuazo called an urgent cabinet meeting this afternoon to study the situation. Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata noted that, if necessary, the state of siege will be imposed.

In La Paz, groups of workers and miners who came from the Altiplano have been staging demonstrations and occasionally exploding dynamite sticks.

The area surrounding Plaza Murillo, where the Presidential Palace and other public buildings are located, has been cordoned off by police forces. Alvarez Plata last night charged that a terrorist group, which he did not identify, was preparing a "flaming barricade" in this area.

Siles Works Out of Residence

PY081818 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Government spokesmen have said that President Siles Zuazo did not come to the Government House today but that he stayed in the San Jorge presidential residence where he held a meeting with his cabinet to discuss the consequences of the strike organized by the COB.

Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has said that President Siles will remain in his post and that only at the end of his constitutional term will he hand over the presidency on 6 August to whoever wins the June elections.

Government Guarantees News Media

PY090140 La Paz Cadena Panamericans in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has stated that the national government is willing to guarantee the normal functioning of the private news media, thus rejecting the newsletter released by some union leaders ordering the suspension of activities of all communications media, including the state news media. The minister said that union organizations intend to silence private radio and television stations.

The official government communique on the decision to silence all private communications media states that the government offers to grant the necessary guarantees to private radio and television stations to continue their informative tasks.

[Begin Rueda Pena recording] The silencing of the independent social communications media represents an attack on the freedom of the press and of information guaranteed by the national Constitution. It also violates the provisions of the Constitution on the freedom of enterprise and work, disregarding the right of journalists to carryout freely their mission of informing and guiding public opinion. In condemning this attack on freedom of the press, the Information Ministry warns that it will defend freedom of the press and information which is threatened. It will ask the Interior Ministry to grant the necessary guarantees to (?protect) the owners, technical personnel, and reporters of the different television channels and radio stations so they can continue fulfilling their difficult responsibilities to inform the people, without censorship. [end recording]

Siles Meets With Cabinet, NMRI

PY090151 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Report from Government House by Jaime Siles]

[Excerpts] The national Cabinet and the Executive Committee of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left headed by Hernan Siles Zuazo has been meeting since 1800 [2200 GMT]. According to several ministers, the meeting is aimed at finding formulas for a dialogue with the COB in the wake of the indefinite general strike ordered today. The government is going to insist on a call to the union leaders to discuss the union's salary demands. The meeting being held here at Government House may continue for a few more hours in view of the current national situation.

Salary Increase Proposed

PY091730 Paris AFP in Spanish 1558 GMT 9 Mar 85

[By Andreas Soliz Rada]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 9 Mar (AFP) -- Observers in La Paz today felt that by readjusting basic salaries by 30 percent and proposing new talks with the COB, President Hernan Siles Zuazo has opened the possibilities for a solution to the general indefinite strike that started yesterday, Friday. Such proposals would permit a rise in basic salaries to $37 on the official market but only to $18 on the black market.

Siles Zuazo has emphatically stated that his government has never severed the talks with the COB and that the severance was prompted by some COB leaders who did so without consulting with the rank and file.

The main beneficiaries of the increases offered will be the mineworkers, who will receive a compensatory bonus of 3,100,000 pesos ($31 at the black market rate of exchange and $62 at the official rate of exchange), which has been granted to the rest of the salaried workers of the country in keeping with the economic measures approved on 9 February.

In compliance with those measures, the Bolivian peso was devalued by 455 percent against the dollar, the purchasing power of salaries fell by 40 percent, and foodstuffs and gasoline increased in excess of 400 percent. The governmental proposals will be reviewed during a meeting of the executive board of the COB scheduled for today.

Government, COB Resume Talks

PY102120 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0216 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 9 Mar (EFE) -- The COB has resumed its talks with the government to find a solution to the indefinite general strike, which today entered its second day.

COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo has reported, however, that no agreement was reached at the first meeting between the workers and the government on the subject of the COB's economic demands.

No solution has been reached in the general strike, Lechin said, adding that the government's 30-percent wage increase is too meager.

Lechin said the government has also failed to respond favorably to the 14-point proposal made by the COB. Lechin added: We have made some progress with regard to the food supply to the stores, but we need some specific proof because we can no longer believe in decrees that will not be complied with.

Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has stated that the government is making every effort to find a solution to the labor conflict.

Upon stating that each day of strike means a $10-million loss for the country, Rueda Pena urged the workers to understand that the government cannot promise to give more than it can afford.

COB spokesmen have said that all activities will remain paralyzed in the country until the government responds satisfactorily to the workers' demands.

In the wake of a meeting held by COB delegates and members of President Siles Zuazo's cabinet, the government called another emergency cabinet meeting to discuss results of the meeting with the workers.

It has been reported by official sources that at the end of the meeting that has already started at Government House, the government will issue a political statement expressing its position on the labor conflict.

COB Charged With Coup Plot

PY102238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1850 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 10 Mar (EFE) -- The government has charged COB leaders, with engaging in congressional maneuvers to topple constitutional President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

The government made this charge in a political statement it issued last night in the wake of the failure of its talks with the COB to solve the general strike the workers started 3 days ago in support of economic demands.

The statement charges that the personal electoral ambitions of COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo and the expectations of others concerning the constitutional succession, alluding to Congress President Julio Garret Ayllon, are the true motives behind the workers' economic demands.

The union leadership has attempted to use the miners who arrived in La Paz on 4 March as a strike force in the hope that the massive presence of workers would ignite a popular uprising against the democratic government.

The government charged that in the face of their failure to provoke a riot, the plotters have been instigating a congressional maneuver to topple President Siles Zuazo and to hand power over to the Historic National Revolutionary Movement (MNRH) led by Victor Paz Estenssoro and Garret Ayllon.

The Bolivian Government views these actions as sabotage against the country at a time when its efforts on the international front are eliciting a wave of understanding for and solidarity with Bolivia.

The government thus warns that a political upheaval would stop international organizations from making those disbursements promised to our country and would disrupt the negotiations with international private banks.

The statement also emphasizes that the Bolivian people denounce these unreasonable maneuvers against a government which is about to step down thanks to the president's personal self-denial.

Finally, the government reiterates its invitation to the COB to hold talks on the labor conflicts and expresses its willingness to grant all that might be affordable to the country.

The government's statement has been described as untimely by union and political circles, since it was issued at a time when the COB has decided to resume the dialogue with the government to solve the strike and when the miners were expressing optimism over a possible agreement.

COB Secretary General Walter Delgadillo has said the government has broken the dialogue with this statement. He noted, however, that the workers are willing to end the strike if the government stops being intransigent and responds to the proposals made by the COB to defend the interests of the majority sectors.

LATE REPORT: ARMED FORCES DECLARE MAXIMUM ALERT

PA111519 Paris AFP in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 11 Mar (AFP) -- It was reported in this capital that the Armed Forces have decreed a maximum alert in view of the nationwide blockade of highways ordered as of today by peasant sectors to support the general strike begun on Friday by a decision of the Bolivia Labor Federation.

GOVERNMENT DECREES 'STATE OF DANGER OF DISTURBANCE'

PY091825 Paris AFP in Spanish 1755 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Santiago, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The Military Government of Chile today decreed the state of danger of disturbance of internal peace in the country, thus strengthening its power to control the population. The measure, published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE, will be in force as of Monday, 11 March, for a renewable period of 6 months. While it is in force, President Augusto Pinochet will be able to order detentions in places other than prisons for up to 20 days without court intervention, and to ban access to the country or expel from the country anyone charged with subversion. He will also be empowered to confine dissidents and certain lawbreakers to remote places for 90 days, also without a trial by a civil court judge. The measure also restricts the right of meeting and the freedom of information. The latter restriction refers to the appearance of new publications.

In November, and while a state of emergency and the previously declared state of internal disturbance were still in force, the government decreed a severe state of seige in order to frustrate a plan of agitation that it had denounced. Later, after the earthquake on 4 March in the central region, a state of disaster was ordered in the most affected provinces and a nightly curfew was imposed in Santiago where one-third of the 11.4 million Chileans live.

COLLADOS SAYS QUAKE DAMAGE EXCEEDS $500 MILLION

PY110055 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2335 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Santiago, 8 Mar (EFE) -- Chilean Economy Minister Modesto Collados today said that the damage caused by the earthquake totals more than $500 million. Collados made this statement in the port of San Antonio, 109 km west of Santiago, which is the capitol of one of the provinces most affected by the earthquake that hit the central zone of Chile on 2 March.

Minister Collados inspected the port of San Antonio with Public Works Minister General Bruno Siebert, who said that all possible efforts are being made to resume port operations during this emergency. Exports have to be shipped, Siebert said, and work is being carried out with much difficulty in the ports of San Antonio and Valparaiso, the main Chilean ports.

Jorge Baeza, director of the Port Enterprise of Chile, said that the most seriously damaged port is San Antonio, and that it can only work with two ships instead of the usual six. According to Baeza, the reconstruction of the port of San Antonio will take at least 4 years, and it will cost $40 million. Collados said that San Antonio is one of the most damaged areas in the country. The governor of this province has said that about 14,000 houses were destroyed and that they will have to be reconstructed. He also said that the proper measures to ensure normal copper and fruit exports will be taken.

Minister Collados said that there are many possibilities for obtaining foreign credits for the reconstruction, and that on 9 March Finance Minister Hernan Buchi will travel to Washington to report on the effects of the earthquake.

The vicar general of the Santiago Archbishopric, Christian Precht, has reported that 140 parishes, churches, chapels, and Catholic schools suffered structural damage. He added that 55 of these buildings were either destroyed or will have to be demolished.

The Army Public Relations Department has reported that the staff has ordered military personnel to go to the zones of Curacavi, Maria Pinto, and neighboring towns, 70 km west of Santiago, to help rebuild houses.

'MOB' FORCES PINOCHET TO LEAVE EARTHQUAKE SHELTER

PY090116 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpt] There was an incident a few days ago at the La Victoria School, which has been set up as a municipal shelter. As part of his tour through the more devastated areas, Pinochet visited the school, which is located in one of the most combative areas. As he entered the building, he was welcomed with boos and people shouting "Assassin, go away." Pinochet's security forces, who had surrounded the area, tried to arrest three youths, who were rescued by an angry mob. In view of the difficult situation, Pinochet decided to leave the area in a caravan that sped away amidst a shower of rocks.

DEMONSTRATORS CLASH WITH POLICE IN SANTIAGO

PY090148 Paris AFP in Spanish 0045 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Santiago, 8 Mar (AFP) -- A dozen demonstrators were arrested today by Chilean police while they were chanting antigovernment slogans near the downtown Plaza Italia in Santiago.

The incident occurred when approximately 100 government opponents staged a surprise meeting to commemorate International Women's Day and to collect aid for the 200,000 victims of the quake that hit the country on 3 March and killed 146 people in the central area of the country. Suddenly, shouts were heard against General Augusto Pinochet's regime, demanding the swift return to democracy and the end to unemployment and hunger.

The police repressed the demonstrators violently, using truncheons and tear gas and rapidly breaking up the demonstration. The ground was left strewn with hundreds of pamphlets signed by relatives of missing persons, political prisoners, banished and exiled persons, and several women's organizations of the opposition that called for the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of women's day. We will never cease our struggle to topple sooner, rather than later, the military dictatorship, one of the leaflets stated, while another one said: We are facing this 8 March full of optimism and hope. This is not the time for desperation, tears, or meditation; the voice and actions of each one of us is needed now.

Bomb Explosions Reported

PY091315 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Official sources have reported on incidents and explosions in this capital. Hugo Mendez provides the following details:

[Begin recording] Last night, when a group of women was unselfishly giving voluntary aid to [words indistinct] of the population, a group of (?90) persons [words indistinct]. Police personnel arrived at the place [words indistinct]. At the same time there were a number of explosions in various parts of Santiago, official sources day. A bomb exploded [words indistinct] at the north corner of General Velasquez Avenue and Alameda at 1830. There were no casualties. At 1854, another bomb exploded in the [name indistinct] metro station. A worker, Segundo Lionel Salas, 18, was injured and taken to the Central Hospital. Another bomb exploded at the corner of Recoleta and Zapadores in a public transport mini-bus with license plate HAK-215 from (?Conchali). Fortunately, there were no casualties. [end recording]

POLICE DISPERSE SAN ANTONIO 'ARTISTIC' EVENT

PA101915 Paris AFP in Spanish 1823 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] San Antonio, Chile, 10 Mar (AFP) -- Persons left homeless by the 3 March earthquake that shook central Chile were dispersed with tear gas in the ruined port of San Antonio while they were attending an artistic event today that had been organized by a Catholic Church radio station. The police moved in on the master of ceremonies and those attending the event at 1400 after the governor and commander of the military zone in western Santiago arrived at the scene and declared that the event was not authorized.

PHOTOGRAPHER FOR SUSPENDED FORTIN MAPOCHO FREED

PY081143 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Gilberto Palacios, who has been working as a photographer for the suspended periodical FORTIN MAPOCHO, has been released. He was held for 14 days. Carabineros arrested Palacios while he was carrying out his professional duties on the corner of (Mackiver) and Alameda Streets, where an unauthorized demonstration was taking place. Palacios photographed a Carabinero agent taking away a banner left by the demonstrators. Palacios was set free yesterday without any charges made against him.

AD DEMANDS LIFTING OF PRESS RESTRICTIONS

PY082310 Paris AFP in Spanish 1706 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Santiago, 8 Mar (AFP) -- The political truce imposed by last Sunday's earthquake in Chile was today broken when the opposition Democratic Alliance [AD] openly demanded the lifting of press censorship so that the country can learn the exact magnitude of the catastrophe.

In addition, the auxiliary bishop of Santiago, Jorge Hourton, said that the government of General Augusto Pinochet should end the state of siege imposed 4 months ago.

The AD has released a communique demanding that press censorship and control over information be lifted. The AD is a coalition made up of the Republican Right, the Liberal Party, the Christian Democratic Party, the Radical Party, Social Democracy, and a faction of the Socialist Party. The Alliance said that this is the only way for the entire country to know the extent of the catastrophe and to become aware of the magnitude of the task that lies ahead.

The declaration, which was not released through the national media because of the restrictions, also called for an end to the persecution of the opposition, the release of hundreds of Chileans banished to faraway towns, and the return of the people in exile to contribute their efforts to the reconstruction of the country. The AD leaders warned that unity among the Chilean people will be impossible if the current government maintains its authoritarianism and internal war.

Bishop Jorge Hourton, in answer to a question about the possibility of the authorities lifting the state of siege, pointed out that this would be a wonderful gesture. The bishop added that anything aimed at equality goes along with the old biblical principle of solidarity: He who has much should not have an excess, and he who has little should not want.

GUATEMALA'S GENERAL MEJIA PAYS 2-DAY VISIT

Arrives 8 March

PA081648 Pogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota -- Guatemalan head of State General Oscar Mejia greeted Colombians today with a "good afternoon," as he began a visit to this country. He stressed that he will pave the way for democracy in his nation.

To arrive in Colombia is to visit the land of Bolivar, whose devotion to freedom and desire for Latin American unity will always guide our steps, Mejia said. He is to remain in Bogota for 2 days.

After expressing support for the Contadora peace process, he maintained that there will be free elections in Guatemala on 27 October. I will continue tirelessly, calmly, and without any interference, the process that will result in full democracy for Guatemala, Mejia remarked, vowing that he will hold elections.

I arrived in Colombia in good spirits and in addition to bringing greetings from the Guatemalan people, I must make a very important announcement: to call elections and abide by what the people decide. Mejia made this remark as he arrived at the Catam Military Airport. He was greeted by President Belisario Betancur, top military officers, and personalities of Colombian industry, government, banks, and church.

[Begin Mejia recording] I feel that it is very important, during this visit to Colombia, to express my faith in democratic tenets and my respect for human rights. I stress that I will continue, tirelessly, calmly, and without any interference, the process that will result in a full democracy for Guatemala. I repeat that as soon as the Constituent Assembly delivers the constitution and the electoral law to me I will call elections, will respect the people's will, and will turn over power to whoever wins. [end recording]

The Guatemalan leader said that Betancur's participation has been firm, direct, and positive to solve the differences among friendly countries which is a clear sign that true leaders not only feel a responsibility to themselves and their homeland but feel that this responsibility goes beyond their borders and this is what President Betancur has shown: A new Latin Americanism that is not only one of words but one of practice, demonstrating an undeniable principle.

Sets Date for National Elections

PA110033 Paris AFP in Spanish 1956 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Guatemalan President General Oscar Mejia defended the Latin American democratic process today and flatly denied that human rights are violated in his country, shortly after meeting with Colombian President Belisario Betancur.

"If we violate human rights in Guatemala, how could we now be promoting peace in Central America," the head of state calmly asked. "We respect the rights of mankind," he said.

The Guatemalan head of state was emphatic in denying the existence of political prisoners in his country. "None," he replied when asked about this. Then he declared his conviction that peace must be secured for all Central America, adding that "it must be negotiated politically for the Central American countries."

Upon his arrival in Colombia yesterday Gen Mejia announced that the timetable for a return to democracy in Guatemala with the 27 October popular elections.

Moments before entering the Narino Palace to meet with President Betancur, Gen Mejia spoke to newsmen of the Todelar Network and told them that his government supports the peace document of the Contadora Group. "Thus far we are in agreement with it and have said that we will sign it at any time, because we have no objection to it," he said.

Asked about the influence of the United States in the Central American countries, particularly in Guatemala, he said that "that is an erroneous opinion." "There is U.S. involvement in all parts of the world and we cannot escape it, but there is no direct influence in our attitudes because we are a sovereign country," he explained.

He then denied that there has been any disruption of public order in Guatemala and stated that during his administration that country has had all liberties, both of expresssion and of work. "We have not had to declare a state of emergency at any time because everything is going well. Furthermore, we decreed a general amnesty since we took office," he added.

Mejia said that in Guatemala "everything is functioning perfectly" and affirmed that "the guerrillas in our country are no longer a force to be reckoned with but are small groups made up of common criminals."

Departs for Home

PA101558 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Bogota -- Expressing his desire to leave a democratic legacy for his country when he ceases to hed the Guatemalan Government, Oscar Mejia Victores left today from Catan Military Airport for his country. Before boarding his aircraft, Head of State Mejia Victores said:

"The message that we have for the armed forces is that it is a state organization created not to rule, but to maintain the country's sovereignty, defend the national territory, maintain peace, and foster Guatemala's development."

Mejia Victores reasserted his willingness to cooperate with Contadora. "Our purpose is to cooperate with the Contadora Group by offering suggestions which will lead to the fulfillment of the Contadora Group's plans."

Mejia Victores also announed that he will withdraw from political activities once Guatemala achieves democracy.

"As I have said before, I will withdraw and write my memoires, which are already extensive."

Mejia Victores was seen off by Colombian President Belisario Betancur and most members of the cabinet.

EPL PREPARED TO HELP NICARAGUA IF U.S. ATTACKS

PA080228 Paris AFP in Spanish 7 Mar 85

[Text] Paris, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Today in Paris, Commander Efraim Viveros told AFP that Colombia's Popular Liberation Army (EPL, a Marxist Leninist organization) is prepared to help the Nicaraguan people with arms and men in the event there is a direct attack by "Yankee imperialism." Viveros, presently on a European tour, said: "Our arms and men are at the service of the Nicaragua people in view of the possibility of a direct attack by Yankee imperialism. The Sandinist ideology and the Nicaraguan people can count on us to send troops there whenever they need them."

The EPL commander said that the Sandinist regime is "ruled by the middle class and follows the social democratic line." Viveros added: "The regime cannot be said to be following a political and social model that is headed towards socialism." He then chastised the regime for "granting capitalists political concessions to the detriment of the workers' status." However, Viveros added that that factor does not preclude supporting the Sandinists cause in their struggle against Yankee imperialism.

EL SALVADOR'S TENORIO ON TALKS WITH GUERRILLAS

PY081750 Paris AFP in Spanish 1711 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio stated here today that the third meeting between the government and the guerrillas on seeking peace in the country will take place after the upcoming Holy Week.

Tenorio, who left for home after a 2-day visit to Peru, said that President Napoleon Duarte is sure that peace will be achieved. During his visit, Tenorio signed a trade agreement with his Peruvian counterpart, Luis Percovich, whom he decorated.

Tenorio also said that his government has brought right-wing and left-wing terrorism almost completely under control.

Tenorio added that his government is undertaking the second stage of the democratic process that will culminate in municipal and congressional elections which, he said, must contribute to achieving the great national objective, peace.

Finally, he reiterated that Salvadoran insurgents receive aid from the Governments of Cuba and Nicaragua and that President Duarte does not waver in his struggle to improve the situation of the urban and rural population and to reach an agreement with the guerrillas, to whome he has offered full amnesty.

APRA'S GARCIA DISCUSSES DEBT, SHINING PATH

PM080924 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 5 Mar 85 p 5

[Interview with American Popular Revolutionary Alliance presidential candidate Alan Carcia Perez by Antonio Cano in Lima -- date not given]

[Excerpt] Cano: How will your government tackle the problem of the foreign debt?

Garcia: We affirm, not as a remote prospect but as an actual possibility, the need for coordination with other countries of Latin America. I believe that the solutions which some countries have achieved on their own will only exacerbate the problem. I am afraid that Argentina will soon have to break its agreements with the IMF. In the year 2000 either Latin America will know how to work together or it will be prey to chaos and poverty.

Cano: Are you in favor of imposing a moratorium on the payment of the debt?

Garcia: Yes, and if it is negotiated, all the better. We seek a lengthy grace period, during which the possibility of paying in kind or discounting the debt would be discussed. Latin American politicians must speak frankly to the United States saying that it is greatly endangering its own security, because with this policy of blind interest rates, our debt is constantly increasing, and this will result in a great social explosion explosion, with some countries being the first casualties.

Cano: Peru, for instance?

Garcia: I believe so. We have much worse social conditions than other countries, and I will point out that our country has borders with five nations.

Cano: Is the violence in this country a reflection of the situation?

Garcia: We reject the homicidal violence of Shining Path, which is typical of messianic fundamentalism, of ayatollah-type fundamentalism transferred to Peru, and we reject it because violence, as the pope has said, leads nowhere. It is bloodthirsty violence which executes poor people. It is not Fidel Castro's guerrilla band on the Sierra Maestra, facing Batista's corrupt army.

Cano: How do you intend to stop that violence?

Garcia: There are two clear responses. First, to enforce the law vigorously and punish violators; no democratic, socialist, or revolutionary government can coexist with the Shining Path's violence. Second, to respond to the age-old problem of poverty. To restore the status of citizenship to the vast population of the Andean rural areas is one of the major aims of the people's state.

Cano: Have violations of human rights occurred in the struggle against violence?

Garcia: There are excesses everywhere, in Peru, just as there are in Spain, and those which I have seen in France. I wish to spare Peru this, because it is possible to have a distorted view of what is happening here. The other day I read a Spanish newspaper which said that Peru has one of the Third World's most repressive dictatorships, and that statement seems greatly exaggerated to me. However, the ideal is that excesses should not occur, and the government should accept the warnings given by domestic or international bodies.

Cano: But prestigious organizations have denounced disappearances, torture, and mass arrests.

Garcia: That will have to continue to be investigated in due course.

Cano: Will you withdraw the Army from the emergency zones?

Garcia: These are measures on which one cannot comment until in power. Of course, the possibilities for pacification include limiting repressive action.

Cano: Do you fear another Army intervention?

Garcia: No, I am convinced that the Armed Forces have a clear idea of their constitutional duties and a clear perception of Peru's social problems.

Cano: Does your party intend to build a system which would limit democracy in any way?

Cano: We have always talked about social democracy, which on the other side of the ocean is changed into the European countries' democratic socialism.

Cano: What is your opinion of U.S. policy in Latin America?

Garcia: I believe that Ronald Reagan's administration is a revival of the most hard-line Republicanism. The increase in interest rates, the pejorative treatment of Latin America, the reference to Central America as a backyard, and that absurd bipolar idea that every problem in Latin America is solely the Soviets' work, are grave diplomatic mistakes. God forbid that the same mistake is made with Nicaragua as was made with Cuba.

HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, COSTA RICA DISCUSS CONTADORA

PA081551 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Mar 85 p 13

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- A bloc formed by Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica will present a document requesting that full guarantees be granted on the control and verification measures to be established with regard to security in the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America.

Diplomatic delegations of Costa Rica and El Salvador arrived in Honduras yesterday to begin the talks. They will stay in Tegucigalpa until tomorrow seeking agreement on those points.

The Costa Rican mission is led by Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Urbina who is accompanied by two Foreign Ministry advisers. The Salvadoran delegation is led by Ambassador Joaquin Maza who is accompanied by other Foreign Ministry officials.

Ramon Hernandez Alcerro, Honduran foreign relations adviser, said that the document being analyzed was drawn up by the Honduran Foreign Secretariat and that it was going to be presented at the meeting scheduled to be held by the Contadora Group and Central American plenipotentiaries on 14 and 15 February. That meeting was postponed until a later date since Costa Rica refused to attend the meeting on those dates, if the Nicaraguan Government did not agree to release Nicaraguan student Urbina Lara who was arrested by Nicaraguan security police at the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua.

The document's objective is to have "the three previously mentioned countries make positive contributions to the Contadora Document that will evolve into a general peace treaty for the region that is threatened by generalized war."

The Honduran adviser indicated that the document has an eminently technical character and that it was ordered by the foreign ministers of Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador when they met in the Costa Rican capital.

He said that once the three countries analyze it, the foreign ministers will decide if they will present it to the Contadora meeting as a joint effort.

With such a document, the three countries would be jointly presenting for the second time observations on the Contadora Document, since last year during a summit of the foreign ministers of these three countries, along with Guatemala as an observer, they agreed to issue their first observations on the Contadora Document.

The Contadora Document includes three extensive areas, each with several subsections. The general points are economic cooperation, democratic and political processes, and security, the most controversial and sensitive area.

This meeting will end in Tegucigalpa tomorrow. The delegates of the three nations are expected to reach joint positions regarding the control and verification measures for security that the Contadora Document will establish as a commitment and obligations to the five Central American countries that will sign it.

COSTA RICA

MONGE TO MEET PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT AT BORDER

PA080446 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge will not travel to Panama City next week even though he had planned to attend the annual meeting of IAPA scheduled to be held there. Monge said he canceled the visit to avoid criticism because there is no sympathy toward the president's trips. Information Minister Armando Vargas will attend the IAPA meeting on behalf of President Monge.

The meeting with Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta will be held at the border. President Monge will travel to David even though he is not traveling to Panama City to partcipate in the IAPA meeting. He is scheduled to meet with the Panamanian president in David where he will attend the inauguration of the David international fair. Later, joint meetings will be held and a border development agreement will be signed. For this reason, Monge will travel to the border area and David on Friday of next week.

EL SALVADOR

FISHERMEN'S UNION OFFICIAL KILLED IN USULUTAN

PA091735 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1530 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Carlos Argumedo report -- live or recorded]

[Excerpt] (?Listeners) of Radio Cadena Sonora, we will now report on the killing of a member of the Trade Union of Fishing Industry [SIP], (Jose Antonio Hernandez), this morning at 0530. SIP leaders will now give us more information on (Hernandez') death. Go ahead:

[Begin report] [Unidentified speaker] SIP reports to the Salvadoran people and other peoples of the world that the companero secretary for conflicts of the SIP branch at Atarraya, S.A., a fishing company based at Puerto El Triunfo, was murdered today. Companero (Jose Antonio Hernandez) was murdered at 0530 while on his way from his home near the Milian Hotel in Usulutan to his job at Puerto El Triunfo.

As members of the SIP, we ask: Is killing union members what Duarte means by freedom? This is a violation of human rights. We demand a solution to this case and an end to the repression of the trade union movement. [end report]

FMLN REPORTS 2-5 MARCH GUERRILLA OPERATIONS

PA080107 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] We have received reports on the armed struggle of people fighting against hunger and for a political solution to the conflict. (Vidal Puentes), Radio Farabundo Marti's correspondent on the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, reported that on 2 March FMLN guerrilla units occupied a stretch of highway between San Vicente and Zacatecoluca.

This revolutionary operation was carried out at 2100 in the vicinity of a place known as Canas turnoff. Our combatants and propagandists carried out a successful meeting with area transporters. Reports also state that at 2300 on 2 March other FMLN guerrilla squads sabotaged the regime's war economy by destroying power lines along the road between San Vicente and San Cayetano Istepeque in the vicinity of (La Quinta). This sabotage resulted in a complete blackout in San Vicente's capital city where the 5th Infantry Brigade is garrisoned.

We have more reports from San Vicente. Duarte's Air Force continues to drop bombs on peasant towns in San Vicente Department. Yesterday, 5 March, three A-37 Dragonfly planes bombed (?two) cantons north of San Vicente in San Sebastian, San Esteban Catarina, and Cerros de San Pedro jurisdictions. The reports state that three U.S.-made planes dropped 25 highly explosive rockets and eight 250-lb bombs on civilians in those areas.

Another report from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front in Cabanas Department states that at 1900 on 4 March, FMLN guerrilla units destroyed Army casemates in Tejutepeque. This revolutionary operation was carried out to assist Tejutepeque residents who do not agree with and repudiate high command attempts to establish another military post in that area. The high command will be responsible for consequences of the fighting in Tejutepeque if it orders the establishment of a new military post there. The FMLN will not allow government forces to set up operations there. The people of Tejutepeque want peace in their homes and work places. The vanguard of the Salvadoran people will support those wishes.

Reports issued by multinational news agencies stated that our forces tried to destroy mayoral offices and National Administration for Telecommunications [ANTEL] offices. Those reports are completely false. Our objective was not to sabotage mayoral and ANTEL offices, but enemy casemates. We repeat: Our objective was not to sabotage mayoral and ANTEL offices, but enemy casemates.

AIR FORCE REPORTEDLY BOMBS CUSCATLAN CANTONS

PA082332 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Attention, attention Salvadoran people. Attention Catholic Church and human rights organizations. Duarte continues to increase the bombings against the civilian residents of large peasant areas in the country. Radio Farabundo Marti has received a report from Cuscatlan Department stating that Duarte's dictatorship airplanes continue to drop dozens of bombs on peasants.

On 4 March a push-and-pull [preceding words in English] plane fired 22 rockets on the cantons of San Cristobal and Corozal, north of Guazapa Hill, Suchitoto jurisdiction. On Sunday, 3 March, an A-37 U.S.-made plane flew over the same area and fired 36 rockets on the residents of the (Las Casas), Las Delicias, El Espino, San Cristobal, and Corozal cantons, Suchitoto jurisdiction. We are strongly denouncing this policy of genocide and scorched earth being practived by Duarte on orders from the Yankees. The Duarte regime and the high command speak of peace; however, they violate the human rights of the Salvadorans who want peace.

Duarte says that the causes of the conflict no longer exist, but the truth is that human rights violations continue to increase with the use of more sophisticated means [passage indistinct] and we demand that the regime [word indistinct] our people demands an immediate halt to the bombings against the residents [passage indistinct].

HONDURAS

SWEDISH TERRORIST ATTACKS TEGUCIGALPA DISCO

PA092136 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Swedish terrorist (Per Hanker Hansen) is being sought by Honduran police for committing a terrorist attack in a Tegucigalpa discotheque early this morning. (Hansen) also planted the bomb that caused the La Penca tragedy in which several Costa Rican journalists were either killed or wounded. Here is the report:

[Begin recording of reporter in Honduras] A strong explosion shook downtown Tegucigalpa early this morning. A time bomb exploded and wounded several youths who were amusing themselves at the Le Volcanic Discotheque on Morazan Boulevard in downtown Tegucigalpa. Presently, the condition of the wounded has not been determined.

It has also been reported that the man who planted this criminal bomb has been identified as (Per Hanker Hansen); the very same presumed journalist who was involved in the La Penca attack on Eden Pastora. International terrorist (Hansen) lives in Managua, Nicaragua. He placed the bomb at Le Volcanic Discotheque. At this time, the Honduran authorities are tracking him in an effort to detain him. Reports circulating in Tegucigalpa indicate that Hansen is of Swedish nationality and has been identified as an agent of the Sandinist regime. Previously, he managed to enter areas under guerrilla control and then released a false report on U.S. men training the guerrillas. (Per Hanker Hansen) has been identified as the man who planted a time bomb in Le Volcanic Discotheque near the Maya movie theater on Morazan Boulevard. The explosion occurred early this morning. So far, Honduran authorities have not announced the number wounded in the explosion that seriously damaged the discotheque. [end recording]

RIGHTS GROUP HEAD ACCUSES ATTACHE OF MURDERS

PA192206 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 8 Mar 85 p 56

[Text] San Pedro Sula -- At the first criminal court of San Pedro Sula yesterday, Ramon Custodio, president of the Honduran Human Rights Commission, accused Captain Rafael Canales Nunez, former regional director of the Department of National Investigation, of being responsible for the disappearance of people and their subsequent murder.

Custodio, who arrived here at about 1100, was accompanied by former Liberal Party Deputy Oylon Ayestas, who publicly accused Canales Nunez, who is now the Honduran Embassy's military attache in Mexico, of being responsible for the disappearance of two Guatemalans. Ayestas blamed him for dragging the Guatemalans off of their farm. These Guatemalans were found shot to death in the country's western region a few days later. The former deputy will appear before the court later on as the main witness. The document in which the charge was made was received by Guadalupe Hernandez, the court's secretary, who signed it to then turn it over for the necessary investigations.

Mexico Asked To Withdraw Status

PA092209 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Mar 85 p 8

[Text] San Pedro Sula -- The Honduran Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, CODEH, has protested to the Mexican Embassy in Honduras over the diplomatic status that the Aztec government gave to Captain Rafael Nunez.

The protest was also presented by the Committee of Relatives of Missing Persons of Honduras, Cofadeh, and the note was delivered to Raul Opez Lira, charge d'affairs.

CODEH President Ramon Custodio said that the purpose of this protest is to force the government of Miguel de la Madrid to withdraw diplomatic status from Canales Nunez, who has been accused of committing political crimes in Honduras.

Custodio said that Canales Nunez is the Honduran military attache and enjoys a status similar to that which the government of Roberto Suazo Cordova gave to Major Alexis Hernandez at the Honduran Embassy in Argentina. Custodio added that Maj Hernandez is also accused of committing political crimes in Honduras.

The difference between the situations of Capt Canales Nunez and that of Maj Hernandez, Custodio explained, is that the latter was withdrawn from Argentina as a result of pressures exerted by human rights organizations of that country.

"CODEH does not believe that a democracy such as that of Mexico could refuse to withdraw the diplomatic status from Canales Nunez, who is accused of several political crimes here in Honduras," Custodio said.

EDITORIAL EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER ELECTORAL PROCESS

PA090342 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Only the Party in Power Opposes Internal Elections"]

[Text] A national consensus prevails that the selection of candidates for president, presidential designates, deputies, and municipal posts should be carried out through direct, secret vote by all the political parties' members.

All sectors of the country, except the party in power, have advocated this starting with the traditional parties' internal factions, including the social organizations, and concluding with economic groups and institutions like the Catholic Church, plus -- in a certain way -- the Armed Forces.

Business sector spokemen have advocated this for a long time; the Confederation of Honduran Workers [CTH] and the Federation of Honduran Agrarian Reform Cooperatives [Fecorah] have also voiced their concern over the electoral process, which is sliding toward anarchy and social chaos.

All this has been provoked by the totalitarian system enforced by the government in power manipulating the National Electoral Tribunal [TNE], Supreme Court of Justice [CSJ], and the police corps to solve confrontations within the Liberal Party provoked by the illegal stand adopted by the party in power.

Aside from doctrine and philosophical matters, the truth is that the electoral process has been discredited in Honduras and there is no possibility of holding a political event to elect candiates -- considering the national interests and the traditional parties' majority decision -- representing the voters' will.

Consequently, there is no opportunity for the opposition or anyone who does not support the party in power to state their political view, much less win the November election, which is the formal step to legalize the electoral process.

Meanwhile, the political parties central authorities have become divided, creating a situation in which the two key political organizations in the country -- the Liberal Party of Honduras and the National Party of Honduras -- no longer have authorities that can be considered solid. The official party's viewpoint will prevail in the end, violating the law, when deciding what is "legal or illegal."

Today, most Hondurans -- regardless of their political stand -- are convinced that this situation has become the starting point for weakening the democratic institutionalization process that was so hopefully sought in the struggle to return to a legal that was so hopefully sought in the struggle to return to a legal regime after 10 years of military regimes.

Everyone is also aware that on this occasion the Armed Forces do not seek a political role beyond their legal purviews. Thanks to this, we have a scant margin -- considering the little time left -- to reorganize the electoral process. In other words, there are no plans for a coup and the people do not want one. However, this does not mean that the circumstances -- if the totalitarian madness continues -- could not provoke one in the future.

The legislators are currently working and seeking a way out by amending the electoral law so the internal elections are enforced as the only appropriate solution to the electoral process' stalemate, which is being provoked by the party in power.

We do not know if these efforts will eventually bear fruit, but it is important to point out that, if this does not happen, a possible political solution through the elections will be seriously jeopardized. Meanwhile, we would face an illegal process that could not be accepted by the citizenry, who have already said that they will not accept candidates imposed during illegal conventions.

It is evident that only the party in power opposes the internal elections. This proves that the Honduran people are united in their decision to directly choose their national departmental, and local authorities. The National Congress will have the last word.

LIBERAL PARTY DISMISSES CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PA090014 San Jose RUMBO CENTROAMERICANO in Spanish 28 Feb-6 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Another stone has hit and further upset the political-electoral honeycomb in Honduras. Leaders of the ruling Liberal Party unexpectedly decided to dismiss the members of its Central Executive Council [CCE].

President Romualdo Bueso Penalba was a victim of the purge together with other leaders who held leadership posts in the secretariats of operation and propaganda, and those in charge of the youth, workers, peasants, finances, women, and social aspects.

Juan de la Cruz Avelar Leiva, who is also a legislator, is the new president. He has received the support of a large number of liberal congressmen and even the support of Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, president of the Republic. This is the second crisis in less than 2 weeks within the Liberal Party which has been in power since 1981. The first crisis tool place recently when everyone took for granted that nominee Carlos Flores Facusse, a deputy and former minister, would be the candidate. However, he was replaced at the last minute of Oscar Mejia Arellano. Mejia will be proclaimed as the representative of Liberal Rodista Movement (MLR) at the national convention in April.

The MLR is the party's majority faction. It is also made up of the People's Liberal Alliance, a sector with little influence. In fact, whoever wins the MLR nomination will virtually be the party's presidential candidate. Mejia Arellano is believed to be that individual.

Despite his party's decision, Bueso Penalba described his removal from the presidency as "illegal because we, the CCE principals, were not present at the session in which the decision to replace us was made."

A saying states: If you do not like it, tough luck. Bueso was not only removed from the CCE presidency, he was also replaced as leader of the party's liberal block at the Legislative Assembly. Avelar Leiva was appointed to that post.

To many people, this measure against the former CCE president shows opposition to his alleged sympathy for two other Rodista opponents: Congress President Efrain Bu Giron and former Transportation Minister Jose Azcona del Hoyo.

Neither of them agree with Mejia Arellano's election and announced that they will be on their own at the liberal convention. As a result of Bueso's dismissal, the two politicians have not ruled out a possible agreement to help Bueso fare favorably during that meeting.

Azcona del Hoyo predicted: "I have always been open to dialogue; everything should be done for the sake of democracy. Our objective is to stop Oscar Mejia because that candidacy is doomed to completely fail."

Meanwhile, President Suazo Cordova, who has been accused of having promoted those changes, denied that he had anything to do with the party restructuring. He said: "I am learning of a number of unfounded charges. I could care less for those who unmercifully attack me day and night."

Suazo said that the Liberal Party statutes allow changes and "whatever is not prohibited by law is allowed by the statutes."

He also requested support for Mejia Arellano's candidacy and urged all party members to work with him.

Suazo is the principal MLR Leader. Initially, he had supported Flores Facusse. However, he recently changed his mind. Rumor has it that he did this under pressure from the Armed Forces, who did not view Flores Facusse's candidacy favorably.

The crisis scourging the Liberal Party has its equivalent in its traditional opponent, the National Party, which is currently being afflicted by a serious process of division and differences involving its various political factions.

While this is happening at home, U.S.-Nicaraguan relations are still cold. Hondurans are holding talks with the United States to reach new economic and military aid.

THE WASHINGTON POST published an article stating that friendly relations between the two nations are experiencing a critical phase as a result of U.S. determination to maintain pressure on the Sandinists from Honduran bases, and as a result of the fear in Tegucigalpa of becoming further involved.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA SPEAKS ON CIA MANEUVERS TO UNITE CONTRAS

PA110257 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0001 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] President Daniel Ortega said today that the CIA is carrying out a second phase in the incorporation of the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board parties into the counter-revolution. The president stated firmly that these parties, although they did not participate in the elections, have been able to continue their civil struggle in the country. He issued a serious warning to them, in case they become involved in the CIA maneuvers. Let us listen to Commander Ortega, as he addressed this issue at the ceremonies to honor the 13,000 coffee pickers today in Matagalpa.

[Begin recording] The goal of U.S. repression is to unite the mercenary forces with political sharks who are also abroad. This is why the first phase in the plan has already been fulfilled. They have united some mercenary forces and they have included, along with the guards that murdered his father, one of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's sons. They have also included Don Arturo [Cruz], who is acting as a faithful instrument of the mercenary forces. Don Arturo could have entered Nicaragua as long as he did not belong to any of these mercenary forces, but now that he has committed himself on the side of these mercenary forces, we have sent a message telling him that he better not come back to Nicaragua. The people do not want to see him here in Nicaragua. [applause]

What Don Arturo has to do is to go with Chamorro's sons to the camps in Honduras, [passage indistinct] Don Arturo has already visited the camps, spoken to the mercenary forces, told them that he does not have their bravery and that he hoped God would accompany them. The truth is that Don Arturo is an accomplice in the murder of children, women, and elderly, and he has not become a friend of God. Rather, God's enemy and Satan's friend. [applause] The truth is, Don Arturo should have invoked the devil instead of God.

They have been working on this plan and the first phase has been completed. What is the second phase? Don Arturo, as an emissary of the contras living abroad, is to peacefully enter Nicaragua as a private [word indistinct], meet here with the coordinating board members, together they involve the Episcopal Conference -- (?they are greatly interested in the Episcopal Conference's involvement) -- and then suddenly there would be this great unity between the mercenary forces abroad and the political forces inside the country. This cannot be possible in this country. The coordinating board members -- who have either consciously joined this little plan or whom the CIA wanted to involve -- have already been informed of this through the Interior Ministry.

As it so happens, some coordinating board members, when Don Arturo was not allowed to enter the country, immediately went to Costa Rica. This coincides with a Central American meeting in Costa Rica, which the president of the Episcopal Conference will probably attend as well as other Nicaraguan [word indistinct] in Costa Rica.

We have made it clear to them: Those who join the mercenary forces, who join the aggressive policies of the imperialist foreign power, who join Sandino's murderers, Carlos' murderers, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro's murderers, the women's, children's and elderly people's murders, had better [word indistinct] the camps, because they will be (?statistically) killed in this country. [applause] [end recording]

D'ESCOTO: REAGAN LEANS TOWARD MILITARY SOLUTION

PA080230 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has said that Ronald Reagan is still inclined toward a military solution to overthrow the revolutionary government even though Commander Daniel Ortega presented a peace proposal last week. However, upon his return from Montevideo, Father D'Escoto said that he was glad the Nicaraguan president and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz met in Uruguay.

STATE SECURITY SUMMONS OPPOSITION LEADERS

PA101435 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Communique issued by the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Directorate on 9 March in Managua]

[Text] The Interior Ministry reports on our people about the scheduling of meetings among representatives of the political organization known as the Democratic Coordinating Board, and counterrevolutionary leaders Arturo Cruz and Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, among others, to carry out schemes planned by the CIA against the Nicaraguan Government as charged in an Interior Ministry communique issued on Thursday, 7 March.

The General Directorate of State Security [DGSE] proceeded to summon the following persons to the DGSE public relations office: Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, Enrique Bolanos Geyer, Luis Rivas Leiva, Ramiro Gurdian, Mario Rappaccioli, Carlos Huembes Trejos, Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla, Jaime Chamorro Cardenal, Miriam Arguello Morales, Erick Ramirez Benvente, and (Daniel Bonilla Leprave) to warn them about the illegality of this activity and the consequences of their participation in them.

For peace, all against aggression.

Warns of 'U.S. Plot'

PA092030 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1836 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Managua, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Opposition sources reported today that Sandinist authorities accused leaders of the Nicaraguan political opposition of hatching a plot, but did not specify the objectives of the alleged plot.

Ten leaders of the Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN), which is the largest political opposition group, were summoned today by Commander Lenin Cerna, chief of State Security.

According to the opposition, after arranging the politicians in three rows, Commander Cerna read them a document stating that State Security had learned that the United States Government, with dissident leader Arturo Cruz and newsman Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, "are hatching a plot."

The meeting between Cerna and the opposition leaders took place at 0800 local time (1400 GMT), in a State Security office.

Cerna said that the plot would be hatched during a meeting in San Jose with the participation of CDN leaders, but he did not specify any names.

During a press conference held at the headquarters of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), COSEP President Enrique Bolanos, who was among those who met with Commander Cerna, said that the State Security chief did not provide them with a copy of that document or with any more details on the alleged plot.

In addition, the business leader said that Commander Cerna warned that should the opposition leaders attend that conspirational meeting, "they would have to suffer the consequences." However, he did not specify which consequences.

The opposition leaders said during a press conference that the meeting with Cerna lasted only 3 minutes and that only Bolanos was allowed to speak -- for 30 seconds. Enrique Bolanos said that he replied that he knew nothing about a plot or a convocation to a meeting in San Jose that Commander Cerna referred to. Bolanos added that the meeting with Cerna was filmed by a State Security television crew.

In addition to Bolanos, the other opposition leaders summoned to that meeting were: Ramiro Gurdian, COSEP vice president, Mario Rappaccioli, Jaime Chamorro, and Miriam Arguello, of the Conservative Party of Nicaragua (PCN), Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro and Erick Ramirez, leaders of the Social Christian Party (PSC), Luis Rivas Leiva, president of the Social Democratic Party (PSD), Carlos Huembes, president of the Union of Nicaraguan Workers (non-Sandinist), and Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla, of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party.

All of them were given summons at midnight last night to appear this morning before Commander Cerna. In fact, Jaime Chamorro, codirector of newspaper LA PRENSA, had to postpone a trip to Panama.

COSEP HEAD SAYS DIALOGUE SPIRIT REGRESSING

PA101247 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0845 GMT 10 Mar 85

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 10 Mar (EFE) -- According to Enrique Bolanos, Nicaragua's top business leader, the "spirit of dialogue" that the Sandinists displayed here 20 days ago "has retrogressed."

Bolanos, president of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP), talked to the press in this capital after meeting yesterday with Commander Lenin Cerna, director of State Security, who warned him about the consequences if he supported an alleged anti-Sandinist plot.

According to Cerna, dissident leader Arturo Cruz, social democratic journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, and the U.S. Government are planning another conspiracy against the regime in Managua. Although Commander Cerna did not provide any details about the plot, he did say there is the intention of holding a meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, where other unidentified Nicaraguan opposition members would participate to organize a subversive plan.

In addition to Bolanos, nine other leaders of Nicaragua's internal opposition were summoned to the State Security office in Managua, which is known as Casa 50.

Representatives of Nicaragua's productive sector met with President Daniel Ortega on 16 February at the presidential house, where the businessmen spoke freely and their views were even transmitted on the state-run television channels.

According to Bolanos, by summoning them yesterday through notifications delivered at midnight on Friday, Ortega's government is demonstrating that it does not want a negotiated arrangement, but instead seeks "to annihilate a faction." Bolanos denied the existence of the plot to which Commander Cerna referred and said he is unaware that a meeting is being called in the Costa Rican capital.

Bolanos stressed: "We dissidents say everything clearly and above board." He added that the warnings of the Sandinist intelligence chief do not scare him. "We will remain in Nicaragua, fighting for democracy, freedom, and true justice, which are so needed here," Bolanos went on.

The other opposition leaders summoned included Ramiro Curdian, vice president of the [CDN]; Mario Rappaccioli; Jaime Chamorro; and Miriam Arguello, of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua.

Others who were also present at the meeting with Cerna were Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro and Erick Ramirez, leaders of the Social Christian Party; Luis Rivas Leiva, president of the Social Democratic Party; union leader Carlos Huembes; and Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla, of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party.

INTERIOR OFFICER DISCUSSES CONTRA PLANS IN NORTH

PA091803 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Mar 85 p 5

[Excerpt] The kidnapping of Miskito Indians in northern Zelaya, near the border, is one of the main operations of mercenaries of the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces, Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, and Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Revolutionary Front, who feel pressured by the Reagan administration to learn "points" so that the Yankee congress will approve the $14 million for the counterrevolution.

Subcommander Jose Gonzalez, delegate of the Interior Ministry in Special Zone No 1, made this statement in a recent interview in which he explained that attacks against towns in the area originate in camps located in Tuibila, Hilaya, Rus Rus, and Karasanka in Honduras.

The CIA mercenaries plan to sabotage bridges, ambush defenseless citizens, destroy economic infrastructure, and deal propaganda blows. They also want to attack Puerto Cabezas and blow up El Lanchon, Wa Wa, Sisin, and Cubalaya bridges as well as attack mines and the Tasba Pri settlement.

He also discussed the cases of former counterrevolutionaries who accepted amnesty in Special Zone No 1, where hundreds of peasants, despite death threats, have left the counterrevolutionary ranks. Recently, more than 120 accepted the amnesty decree in Las Minas. Others did the same in Puerto Cabezas, the northern and southern coast, El Llano, and Tasba Pri. The deserters are now involved in productive activities. Christian pastors, relatives, and the Organization of Nicaraguan Miskitos have played an important role in promoting the large number of desertions from the contra ranks, Gonzales said.

'CIA MERCENARIES' DESTROY 22 PRODUCTION UNITS

PA091630 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] A source from the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform has reported that CIA mercenary groups, which destroyed 22 state production units in northen Nicaragua during the current coffee harvest, brought about losses of 23,401,000 cordovas.

The contras destroyed 5 state production units, 17 privately owned farms, and 2 agrarian cooperatives. They also caused losses totaling 900,000 cordovas as a result of burnt vehicles belonging to the state and private sectors.

SPAIN'S TERRITORIAL MINISTER ARRIVES IN MANAGUA

PA080436 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Tomas de la Cuadra Salcedo, Spanish minister of territorial administration, arrived in Managua last night to strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation between Madrid and Managua.

He will meet with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and members of the cabinet with whom he will discuss implementation and outlook for a general cooperation plan.

Meets President Ortega

PA082340 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] President Daniel Ortega Saavedra met with Tomas de la Cuadra Salcedo, Spanish minister of territorial administration. Strengthening friendship and cooperation between the Spanish and Nicaraguan Governments and consideration of a local administration cooperation plan were the main objectives of this Spanish official's visit to our country.

Also present at the meeting were Presidential adviser Dionisio Marenco, Central Bank Minister President Joaquin Cuadra, and Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga.

CUBAN DIESEL SHIPMENT ARRIVES IN CORINTO

PA080108 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Report by Felix Thomas from Corinto Port]

[Text] An important shipment of 74,436 barrels of diesel fuel from Cuba has arrived in Corinto port aboard oil tanker Cielo Di Napoli. The important shipment will solve the demand for this product in our country. The shipment has been sent to the Nicaraguan Petroleum Enterprise.

CASTRO PARTICIPATES IN FOURTH FMC CONGRESS

Takes Part in Discussions

FL071234 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] A broad debate characterized by critical and self-critical statements was the basic theme of discussion of the main report at the Fourth Congress of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] which took place in Havana's Palace of Conventions. The presence of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and his statements on several subjects contributed to the sessions, chaired by Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the FMC.

During the second day of the congress, the discussions centered on aspects affecting the free incorporation of women into jobs, their permanence in their jobs, and their treatment once they have undertaken socially useful tasks.

In one of his statements, Fidel noted the importance of discipline in all sectors. He mentioned that honor and shame are sentiments that have become moral factors in the revolutionary process itself. Fidel gave a detailed account of some of these questions in capitalism and pointed out that it is necessary to learn the causes of absenteeism in order to combat it, which is the responsibility of the party and the Union of Young Communists, the trade union, and management.

He said: We have won the first battle to include women in the work force but we still must win battles against injustice and discrimination, by objectively evaluating the facts.

A lively dialogue between the commander in chief and the delegates present at the Plenary Hall of the Palace of Conventions was the norm during the session, which was extensive and fruitful because of the advantageous exchanges that occurred.

Fidel also expressed his opinion on the efforts of the film and television industry in our society, which is currently being studied by the party leadership.

For the third day of the congress, plans include speeches by numerous foreign delegations, the reading of reports and ideological resolutions on family education, health, and women in economic life, among other activities.

The women's meeting ends Friday, 8 March, International Women's day.

FMLN-FDR Commander Galia

FL082114 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1908 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Sonia Aguinada Carranza, also known as Commander Galia, and an FMLN-FDR representative, today extended the greetings of Latin American women to the Fourth FMC Congress.

She said there was a clear contrast between revolutionary Cuba and the situation of hunger, poverty, disease, and illiteracy among the other social ills which capitalism generates. She also reported that 90,000 men and women have disappeared in the continent and accused imperialism and dictatorships of producing this genocide. She added that imperialism also forcibly imposes its policy of domination and plunder of the continent's natural resources and used as an example the United States transforming Honduras into a military base.

New National Committee Members

FL082024 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Vilma Espin, alternate Politburo member, has been confirmed as president of the FMC, it was reported at the Fourth FMC Congress. At the end of the afternoon session of the last work day of this historic congress, the members of the organization's new national committee were presented to the more than 1,200 delegates. Prior to this, the secretary general of the Women's International Democratic Federation, Fanny Edelmann, read a letter of greetings to the Cuban women which recognizes the example they have provided the world during the past 25 years.

The Fourth FMC Congress will be closed this afternoon with a speech by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first party secretary.

Castro Presents Award

FL091230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Last night, the Order of Mariana Grajales was present to Vilma Espin, Sara Pascual, Francisca Rivero, (Sara Isalgue), Rosa Elena Simeon, and (Adolfina Cossio). Our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, presented this order to them at a solemn ceremony held in the Protocol Hall, Cubanacan.

The Order of Mariana Grajales was awarded post mortem to Celia Sanchez, (Tamara Bonque), (Amerida Maya), and Commander Ana Maria. Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of our party's Politburo, spoke at the solemn event. He said the Order of Mariana Grajales, which was presented for the first time, represents the heroism, patriotism, and firmness of Cuban women. At the same event, 30 comrades were decorated with the Order of Ana Betancur.

Later, our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, held a reception for the delegates to the Fourth FMC Congress.

Congress Closing Session

FL090126 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 2154 GMT on 8 March carries live coverage of closing ceremony of the Fourth FMC Congress from Havana's Karl Marx Theater. Coverage opens with the camera planning the audience. At 2200 GMT, the stage curtains are raised. Sitting at the dais on stage are Vilma Espin, Fidel Castro, Ramiro Valdes, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Pedro Miret, and many other leaders.

The national anthem is played. The participants are heard chanting slogans. At 2203 GMT, staff announcer Manolo Ortega comes to the microphone and summarizes the events of the past 2 days. Ortega introduces Vilma Espin who reads the congress' final declaration. The participants pledge to work harder for the revolution. They hail the patriotic fervor of the Cuban women. They pledge to remain at their work stations as long as needed and, if necessary, will take up arms to defend the fatherland. Espin concludes by reading the congress' declaration at 2214 GMT. All participants vote unanimously in

According to the report, rebel commandos dynamited both the mayor's office and the telephone company office in Tejutepeque in Cabanas Department, causing extensive material losses. The guerrillas also burned and destroyed the mayor's office in the town of Algeria in Usulatan Department, while insurgent sapper units dynamited a train near Apopa, 12 km north of San Salvador.

Meanwhile, a large protest demonstration was staged in the capital, where thousands gathered in response to an appeal by the Committee of Relatives of the Assassinated and Missing. The demonstrators gathered in front of the Legislative Assembly building to demand an end to the violent repression unleashed by the regime against the civilian population.

NEW U.S. 'SPY PLANE' BEING TESTED IN HONDURAS

PA041642 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] The Pentagon, besides turning Honduras into a big U.S. military base in Central America, is using Honduran territory as a testing ground for military equipment, including a long-range spy plane operated by remote control.

The San Lorenzo Air Base, near the Gulf of Fonseca, serves as a testing ground for the espionage equipment manufactured by the U.S. firm (Mierck-Zeigler, Inc). The information on the testing was confirmed in Tegucigalpa by a Pentagon spokesman, who explained that Honduras had been chosen as a test site to determine how the equipment would function in a tropical country.

The information coincided with the arrival in Honduras of the chairman of the U.S. Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Vessey, and the chief of the U.S. Southern Command, General John Galvin. Gen Vessey and Gen Galvin today met in the Honduran city of La Paz with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova and other high-ranking military leaders to continue negotiations under way since last November between the two countries on a new economic and military assistance treaty to replace that of 1954.

RISQUET VALDES CONGRATULATES PORT WORKERS

FL021946 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes has sent a congratulatory letter to workers in the port-transport-domestic economy sector, who in February were able to unload, transport, and distribute to industry some 800,000 tons of imported goods.

By unloading at the ports 799,200 tons of imported goods, an average of 28,542 tons a day, the month of February has passed into port worker history as the most productive month of all time, he said.

Risquet Valdes underscored in his letter to the workers that simultaneously, export quotas in sugar, citrus, and other foreign exchange earners, were exceeded in February. This vigorous reply has decisively contributed to creating over a short period of time, the conditions to avert a situation which was becoming critical and that threatened to significantly affect the national economy. Suffice to say that on 20 January, when the port alert was decreed, 46 ships had to anchor extra days because of delays, but by the end of February, this figure had been reduced to 12 ships, and several of them will be unloaded in the next few days.

ARMANDO ACOSTA PRESENTS FIRST PRIZE CDR AWARDS

FL281224 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Politburo and national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], has awarded the first prize banners for the 1984 CDR emulation to Pinar del Rio and Havana City Provinces.

At a ceremony held in Havana, Acosta said how difficult it had been to reach a decision because of the good work all the provinces had done. All of the provinces including the Isle of Youth special municipality were ranked "outstanding." Acosta congratulated Pinar del Rio Province for having won the first prize 2 years in a row. This is the first time in the entire history of the CDR that any province has achieved this.

CAMACHO AGUILERA ATTENDS BORDER GUARDS CEREMONY

FL061717 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The Border Guards' eastern district was awarded the Santiago de Cuba's heroic city flag during a formal ceremony commemorating the 22th anniversary of the founding of the border guard units. Julio Camacho Aguilera, Politburo member and party first secretary in Santiago de Cuba, presented the banner to Colonel (Amaury Cuza Soffi), chief of the Border Guards' eastern district.

800,000 TONS OF CRUDE PLANNED FOR 1985 PRODUCTION

FL080216 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] The Ministry of Light Industry's union for refining and distributing petroleum plans to extract 800,000 tons of crude oil this year nationwide. It also will place priority on completing the planned meters of drilling of parametric wells in order to have the forecasted geological and industrial resources [as heard] and to start exploiting the petroleum deposits in the Varadero area.

Havana Province Production

FL051234 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Petroleum extraction in northern Havana Province will grow by 22 percent this year over 1984's production level. This year's extraction will be triple that of 1981, the beginning of the current 5-year production period.

The hydrocarbon collection centers are adopting measures to conserve energy and construction resources, which will allow greater productivity and conservation.

BRIEFS

DROUGHT CONTINUES -- In Pilon [Granma Province], one of the two municipalities hardest hit by the drought in the province, 6,863 heads of cattle were rounded up so they could be fed. [Summary] [Havana Television Service in Spanish 1312 GMT 7 Mar 85]

ECUADOR

SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA090114 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio arrived in the country today to meet with high-level officials, including the president and foreign minister. Tenorio will explain the situation which prevails in his country during the meetings to be held with Ecuadoran political leaders and intellectuals.

VENEZUELA

NORWAY'S STRAY ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA082154 Paris AFP in Spanish 0318 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Caracas, 6 Mar (AFP) -- At the start of a 4-day official visit to Venezuela, Norwegian Foreign Minister Svenn Stray said that Norway has not triggered an oil price war and that special circumstances forced his country to sell crude below OPEC prices,

It is the first time that a Norwegian foreign minister has visited Venezuela or any other Latin American country.

During his visit, Stray will meet with the president of the Republic, Jaime Lusinchi, and with the minister of energy, Arturo Hernandez. Diplomatic sources revealed that the issues to be discussed include the oil market crisis at the international level and the political situation in Central America.

Stray said that his country is very interested in strengthening ties with all Latin American countries, particularly Venezuela, because both have common interests such as oil exports. He also said that Norway is concerned over the situation in Central America and supports the efforts of the Contadora Group.

At the end of his visit, Stray will visit Colombia and other Latin American countries.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS ON TERRORIST INFILTRATION

PA090059 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1658 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Caracas, 7 Mar (EFE) -- The newspaper "2001" today reported, under a banner headline, that international terrorists are carrying out plans to destabilize Venezuelan organizations. The newspaper indicated that a political summit was held yesterday at Deputy Interior Minister Cesareo Espinal's office to discuss the actions to be adopted by the government regarding the latest events and increased terrorist and criminal actions.

The article adds that the murders of lawyer Juan Luis Ibarra Riverol and union leader Hemmy Croes, in addition to repeated bank robberies, made it necessary to hold a meeting between the National Police Council, Deputy Interior Minister Espinal, and Justice Minister Jose Manzo Gonzalez. "2001" said there exist international terrorist plans to carry out urban actions, and pointed out that Social Christian Party Deputy Jose Curiel reported that members of Colombian guerrilla groups and the Peruvian Shining Path guerrilla organization have infiltrated the country.